

*John R. Davis*

No doubt the first colored minister *At NC* was a licensed preacher was granted power by our court to perform matrimony in 1906 with the late Joseph H Wilson as his surity. A school book board was established in the county 1904 with the following men J.B Grimes, George P. Moore, J.W Hill, T.A Bruffey, S.B Hannah, W.R Sutton, and W.H Grose as members that sat once each year. The term of school throughout Pocahontas County had been from 4 to 6 months but At Marlinton they decided to have an indipendent school district as they wanted a longer term of school in this fast growing small rural town, but in order to have this the citizens of the county had to vote on it, no doubt this is where our present 9 month term originated.

After the railroad made its appearance up the Greenbrier in 1900 many roads had to be made leading from our main highways to the railroad at various points throughout the county, the Seebert road was built 1901

this road served the people from Little Levels for many years, or until the trucking age. *Buckeye, River bridge built 1909. to serve the people of this section. By Harris Co. J.W. Va + Pa - 240 ft in length to Buckeye station of S + O*

The Pocahontas Development Company with main offices in Grafton bought up all the land on which the town of Marlinton now stands and sold the lots off as the town grew. No doubt the first road machinery of heavy nature was bought by our county court in 1901 through Barlow & Moore at Lacey. Our present drug store was bought from Harry Echols by S.B  
in 1907 this has been a valuable business as it put the needs of

our people and our doctors close at hand. The Durbin Drug Company S.A. Wilhide as proprietor made application to the court for a license to operate at Durbin in 1907. In 1904 the Price Brothers Andrew and Norman owners of the Pocahontas Times received \$ 450.00 and The Messenger received \$273.00 for printing financial statements and ballots.

One of Pocahontas Countys beloved citizens began his career in 1903, this is none other than our own Professor G.D McNeill of Buckeye who was admitted to the bar of Pocahontas County in 1903 and in 1904 was elected as Prosecuting Attornet of the county but resigned in 1906 and joined the Navy, serving for quite sometime gaining much knowledge and experience and upon returning to the county took up ~~tax~~ educational work and taught in our public schools throughout the county until 1920 when he was elected County Superintendent of schools serving one term and in 1925 started teaching in the Marlinton High School serving as principal of this institution, this position he held until 1941 when he was employed by Davis & Elkins <sup>Colby</sup> as one of its instructors at Elkins. W. Va. G.D as he is known has done much in helping build up a good county government as he emphasizes citizenship, and this is the key to good county government. J.B Grimes having been elected as County Superintendent in 1902 and he and B.B Williams served from that time until 1920. Following G. D McNeill came Miss Anna

Wallace of Millpoint who served in that ~~ex~~ capacity until 1928 when she was replaced by Clarence E. Flynn of Arbovale. W. Va. who served until 1936 and he was replaced by our present County Superintendent Eric S. Clutter of Hillsboro, the county unit system coming in 1932 changing this office from elective to that of an appointive one. Our educational system has done much toward our county government in the training and schooling our citizens to become lawyers and county leaders in some way.

The Board Of Equalization and Review of Pocahontas County for 1910 were the following men J. A. Reed, G. W. Wilson and M. L. Beard, this board was set up as a tax adjustment board for the county. Superintendent of Roads for this time were the following B. M. Arbogast for Greenbank District, for Edray District James Gibson, Little Levels Ellis McCarty with G. A. McNeel as his assistant, G. M. Sharp for Huntersville District each had men working under them.

Many of Pocahontas Countys' present lawyers came into prominence about this time as P. T. Ward received his commission as Notary Public in 1906, and in 1908 was elected a Justice of the Peace in Greenbank District after this he moved to Marlinton to practice law, since that time has served as a lawyer of the county and along with his practice is secretary of the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore for this county, serving the farmers when nee

ding money ~~ix~~ with which to buy a farm or finance the one they already have.

In 1908 C.J McCarty was elected County Clerk, and he chose as his deputy J.G Tilton. Samuel B. Moore was elected Assessor with L.S Co Cochran and J.W Oliver as his deputies. In that same year E.F Curry was elected County Surveyor. The following men were elected throughout the county, for Greenbank District T.M Kiern Justice of the Peace, and S.T Ruckman Constable. For Little Levels District F.T LaRue and C.M Anderson as Justices, D.M Kinnison Constable. Edray District J.B Hannah and Uriah Bird as Justices and C.H McCoy <sup>+ Adam Moore</sup> Constable. Huntersville District Coe Beverage Justice and Upton Sharp Constable. Those obtaining Notary Commissions H. Lee White, Elmer D Burner, J.B Grimes and A.P Edgar. S.R Hogsett was appointed overseer of the poor. The County Estimate for 1908 was \$ 33.702.

In the election of 1904 George W Duncan was elected Surveyor of lands, Justices elected D.B McElwee, G.R Curry, T.A Bruffey, J.W Hill, W.R Hannah, A.M Oliver, Constables D.M Kinnison, R.K Burns. In 1900 E.N Moore was elected Sheriff and in 1904 J.S McNeel elected Sheriff with the following deputies W.J Pritchard, Samuel Sheets, E.A Showalter, G.W Mann and W.A Iskrige.